



TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF STATE HEALTH SERVICES

DAVID L. LAKEY, M.D.
COMMISSIONER

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February 21, 2008

Dear Stakeholders:

On behalf of Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS), Massage Therapy Licensing Program, you are cordially invited to a Stakeholders' Forum on Wednesday March 5, 2008, from 8:30 am-5:00 pm, regarding the proposed revisions to the massage therapy licensing rules.

On January 30, 2008, the State Health Services Council considered the proposed revisions to the massage therapy licensing rules. Due to the oral and written comments provided at the meeting, the Council voted to table the rules until their next meeting and requested that the program conduct an additional meeting to gather further stakeholder input regarding the proposed revisions. We are particularly interested in receiving your additional input on the following topics in the proposed rules:

- Limiting the internship hours to a maximum 100 hours; and
- Prohibiting massage schools from offering tuition waivers in which students are allowed to work an extended internship to reduce tuition.

The Stakeholders' Forum will be conducted at the following location:

William B. Travis Building, Auditorium 1-111
1701 North Congress Ave
Austin, Texas

Free parking will be available on the top level of garage R, located across the street at 1706 San Jacinto St. See attached map.

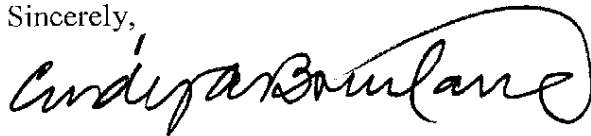
Please make every effort to attend this forum, as the issues discussed will impact all stakeholders of the Massage Therapy Licensing Program. Please feel free to also extend

This forum will be conducted as a formal, facilitated meeting for DSHS to obtain additional input from you regarding the proposed rules. If you are unable to attend this forum, you may submit your written comments via fax to: (512) 834-6677, attn: Massage Therapy Licensing Program, or via e-mail to: massage@dshs.state.tx.us. Please submit your comments no later than March 3, 2008.

If you have any questions regarding the upcoming meeting or need further information, please do not hesitate to contact Yvonne Feinleib in the Professional Licensing and Certification Unit at (512) 834-6616.

We look forward to seeing you on March 5, 2008.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Cindy A. Bourland". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end of the last name.

Cindy A. Bourland, M.Ed.
Manager, Professional Licensing and Certification Unit
Regulatory Services Division